



## LEXINGTON-FAYETTE URBAN COUNTY GOVERNMENT

Feb. 19, 2009

Contact: Susan Straub  
Office: 859-258-3111  
Cell: 859-576-2564

### **Mayor to meet with President and Cabinet on Recovery Act Implementation**

Mayor Jim Newberry is returning to the White House again Friday. He is one of 75 mayors from across the nation who will have an opportunity to meet with President Obama concerning implementation of the economic stimulus that the President signed into law on Tuesday.

This is a second trip to the White House for the Mayor, who met with top White House aides earlier this month to discuss the American Recovery and Reinvestment Plan, which was then in its final stages of consideration by Congress. The president has called the bill "the most sweeping economic recovery package in the nation's history."

In addition to the President and Vice President Joseph Biden, Newberry and the other mayors are scheduled to meet with several members of Obama's cabinet, including Attorney General Eric Holder, Housing and Urban Development Secretary Shaun Donovan, Transportation Secretary Ray LaHood, Energy Secretary Steven Chu and Education Secretary Arne Duncan. "It will be a great opportunity for the mayors to hear from our nation's leaders on

implementation of this landmark legislation and to offer our perspective and assistance to Washington,” Newberry said.

The American Recovery and Reinvestment plan proposes \$787 billion in spending to stimulate the economy and create jobs. A significant portion of the funds must be spent within a two-year period.

Lexington has identified a number of “shovel-ready” projects that could potentially receive funding. Newberry said Lexington qualifies for a significant portion of funding, particularly in areas relating to environmental quality and energy efficiency, infrastructure, computerized medical records and education.

A commission formed by Mayor Newberry to provide recommendations on priorities for the federal funds and to ensure transparency of the expenditures will hold its second meeting at 3 p.m. Friday. The meeting is open to the public and will be held in the Council Chamber, Government Center, 200 E. Main St. It will be broadcast live on G-TV3 and will stream live over the internet at [www.lexingtonky.gov](http://www.lexingtonky.gov).